Nurses - 1933

General

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.
SENTINEL

JAN 12 1933

Distribution of Nurses

One out of every 590 people in the United States is an active graduate nurse; but that does not mean that nurses are available in that proportion in every neighborhood, says the committee on the grading of nursing schools. This is an average figure and of course is determined by many different factors. The committee illustrates the distribution of nurses by maps of three states, New York, Louisiana and California, a color scheme being used to indicate counties that have one nurse for each 500 people, one nurse for each 500 to 1,000 people and one nurse for each 1,000 or more. The nurses considered are those who have been registered officially.

The outstanding feature in all three of these maps is the way in which nurses cluster in certain counties and avoid other counties. In the heart of New York city, one out of every 234 people is an active, state-registered graduate nurse. In Albany county, the figure is one out of every 394 people. But in Schoharie county, Albany's next-door neighbor, there are only four registered nurses in the entire county, or one in 5,391 people. The situation in California is very much like that in New York. In Louisiana, the large number of colored people complicates things, since there are few registered Negro nurses.

In New York state, there are twenty-four counties in which there is one or more nurses for each 500 people. Twenty counties have one nurse for each 500 to 1,000 people, and sixteen counties have one nurse for each 1,000 or more people. Of the 25,000 nurses who are coming into the profession this year, most of them will not meet the shortage at the top, but add to the surplus at the bottom. They will live in the counties where nurses are already living. This means that unless there is an unusual amount of sickness in the centers where nurses tend to gather, unemployment during the coming twelve months will be serious.

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Maryland.

Taking Course at Johns Hopkins

MISS MAJORIE A. FORTE, R.N., (left)

Chestertown, Kent County, Md., and Miss Myrtle M. Patton, R.N., Prince Frederick, Md., who are in Baltimore with fifty white state nurses at the Institute for Public Health School of Hygiene held at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Misses Forte and Patton are our only two state nurses in Maryland.

Missouri.

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ST. LOUIS, MO.
GLOBE DEMOCRAT

FEB 25 1933

STRIKING STUDENT NURSES.

It is to be trusted that the twenty-four Negro student nurses who employed the strike as an instrument of policy in attempting to enforce demands for the reinstatement of a suspended member of the group have now learned one of the cardinal principles of their profession. They are back at work full of the knowledge that the welfare and safety of patients come before everything in the profession they have chosen. If they have not, the magnanimity of the Nurses' Board and of their superintendent in accepting their apologies and returning them to duty is wasted and the students would better seek other occupations.

Fortunately a number of the student nurses who were on duty at Hospital No. 2, the City Hospital for Negroes, refused to join the strike and remained with the 411 patients, caring for them with the aid of graduate nurses attached to the staff of No. 2 and recruited from the main hospital. Thus no great harm was done by the recalcitrant group's desertion.

But they must change their attitude, and probably have or they would not be back in training. If they now subscribe to the ethics that were brought to their attention by the board they may make good and valuable nurses by the time they have finished their courses; if they have not, the nursing profession will be better off without their attention.

Nurses—1933

National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

Nurses to Hold Silver Anniversary in Chicago

8-14-33

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — Chicago is expecting an army of spic and span, trim and precise young women when the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses is to celebrate its silver anniversary.

The organization will hold its twenty-fifth annual meeting August 15, 16, 17 and 18, in the assembly hall of Bethesda Baptist church, 5300 South Michigan avenue, approximately the same dates on which the National Medical Association also convening.

The National Association of Colored Nurses was organized in New York in 1908. It numbers within its membership most of the outstanding nurse of the country. Many of its membership are institutional, public health and private duty nurses.

The local members of the organization are planning a hearty welcome for their visiting sisters.

Mrs. Melvie P. Anderson, 6160 Indiana avenue, is chairman of the housing committee.

New York.

Nurses - 1933

Mrs. Corinne Sawyer Gets Appointment As Supervising Nurse

Mrs. Corinne N. Sawyer who attained the highest ranking in the recent civil service examination for promotion to Supervising

Nurse in the Department of Health, has been assigned as supervising nurse to the East Harlem Health Centre, 345 East 116th street.

Mrs. Sawyer is the second nurse of the race to assume supervising service in the Department of Health. East Harlem Health Centre is comprised of a number of health agencies with whom Mrs. Sawyer will work in addition to her own staff of nurses.

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North Carolina

Raleigh, N. C. News and Observer
Friday, January 27, 1933

NEGROES PROTEST MOVE OF DISMISSING NURSE

Ask For Public Hearing On Matter of Abolishing Position of Public Nurse

Strongly objecting to the discontinuance of the services of the Negro public health nurse employed in the Wake County Health Department, several interracial and Negro organizations here have signed a petition asking that a public hearing be held to allow them to make formal protests to the move.

Dr. A. C. Bulla, County Health Officer, has announced that the Negro nurse position abolished in the interest of economy on February 1.

The petition points out that there are 12 full time workers employed in the Department, five of these being public health nurses, and of these there is only one Negro. "We cannot see the wisdom of cutting off the only worker among one-third of the population," the petition states.

Signing the petition are officers of the following organizations: Interracial Committee of the Raleigh Ministerial Association, Raleigh Negro Ministerial Alliance, Raleigh Negro Medical Society, Raleigh Relief and Charitable Association, Wake County Negro Parent-Teacher Association, Wake Association of Negro Farmers, Raleigh Interracial Committee, Inter-Fraternal Alliance, Negro Voters League, Raleigh Negro Woman's Club. A number of individuals also signed the petition.

RALEIGH, N. C.
NEWS OBSERVER

MAR 27 1933

THE NURSING LAW IN NORTH CAROLINA.

To the Editor: In 1925 North Carolina created a standardization board for nursing education. The result of the work of this board granted us recognition by the national organization and allowed reciprocity with other states. Several years time was allowed in which to give the schools of nursing time to qualify and meet this minimum standard of requirements. In most instances a gratifying interest was shown, and most hospitals made the necessary effort. Some made no effor even when politely urged yearly to do so. It is these hospitals whose owners are now sponsoring a bill in the General Assembly which would take all control of nursing education from the hands of the board, which is now composed of doctors and nurses alike, placing all power in the hands of the members of the North Carolina Hospital Association where nurses have no representation.

There are seven hospitals in North Carolina whose schools of nursing are not classified. Two of these seven are colored. Thirty-four schools are in Class "A" and about fifteen are in Class "B". In the unclassified schools the student nurses are exploited to a large extent being used as specials, the patient being charged from three to five dollars daily for her services. This form of peonage was discontinued by the best institutions almost twenty years ago.

It has been proven that the small hospital can operate more economically and efficiently with graduate nursing staff, than with a properly conducted school of nursing. In discontinuing a school, whose graduates cannot have recognition elsewhere. the owner of the hosptial does not necessarily have to close the hospital. Indeed, it would seem that the student nurses were making the living for the hospital owner. Will our law-making body allow nurses no voice in the standards of their own profession?

HETTIE REINHARDT,
Winston-Salem, N. C.

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North Carolina.

Wilmington, N. C. Morning Star
April 9, 1933

Community Hospital Grads Given Diplomas

Three graduates were awarded diplomas during commencement exercises of the Community hospital (colored) school of nursing, held Friday night in the Central Baptist church. The graduates were Alberta Bentley, Ruth Carr and Lillie Mae Hartwell.

The several hundred persons attending heard J. A. Taylor, one of the prominent white citizens taking part in the exercises, trace the development of the hospital from its founding. Mr. Taylor urged the graduates to spread the gospel of hygiene and good-will. Dr. L. E. Farthing presented the diplomas, and George E. Kidder spoke briefly.

Hospital pins were presented to the graduates by Florence Avant wife of Dr. F. W. Avant.

Flowers furnished by Will Rehder were given to each of the graduates.

Rev. W. H. Moore was master of ceremonies. The program follows:

Processional—The Son of God Goes Forth to War.

Invocation—Rev. G. W. Billups.

Hymn—Central Baptist church choir.

The Lady of the Lamp—Dolores Hussey.

Music—Williston Glee club.

Address to Nurses—Rev. J. A. Bonner, D. D.

Solo—Rubye Mitchell.

Short Talk—J. Allen Taylor.

Music—Williston Glee club.

Presentation of Diplomas—Dr. L. E. Farthing.

Benediction—Rev. R. W. Underwood.

Recessional — Onward Christian Soldiers.

Dr. R. R. Taylor, retired vice principal of Tuckegee Institute, also spoke.

Oregon.
6

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GEORGIA GIRL FIRST TO PASS NURSES' EXAMS

1-14-33

Two daily papers carried the following interesting news item recently:

"Miss Clara Mae Ingersoll, of Portland is the first Negro girl to qualify for registered nurse in the state, it was announced here after she had passed the examination of the Oregon state board of nurses.

Miss Ingersoll was born in Columbus, Ga. After finishing the college course, she entered nurse training at John A. Andrews Memorial hospital, Tuskegee institute, where she was graduated this year. While in training Miss Ingersoll received two honorary awards, one for the highest average, and another for being the most competent emergency nurse.

South Carolina

Nurses - 1933

Greenville, S. C. News
September 8, 1933

Construction Colored Nurses Home Ordered

SPARTANBURG, Sept. 7.—Construction of a colored nurse's home at the Spartanburg General hospital will be started the latter part of this or the first of next week, according to Dr. J. Moss Beeler, superintendent.

Funds to purchase the materials needed were given the hospital by the Duke endowment. Labor for the project will be furnished by the Spartanburg County Relief council.

The building, which will be one-story and of brick, will include a living room, two private bed rooms and a dormitory.

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Texas

Monticello, Miss. Herald
August 25, 1933

COLORED NURSES TAKE TALLAHASSEE COURSE

Nineteen colored nurses of Jefferson County went to Tallahassee, on Saturday, for a week's study at Fla A. and M. College for negroes. The movement is under the supervision of the State Board of Health. Miss Graves, employed by the State Board of Health has been planning for this week of instruction for some time

The Monticello Woman's [illegible] also sponsoring the work, and the president, Mrs. W. L. Maige, acting for the club arranged for the nurses' transportation to and from Tallahassee, engaging school buses for the purpose.

Besides the instruction given, an attractive program was given on Saturday evening, when men and women of prominence addressed the audience. Among the speakers were Gov. Sholtz, Dr. Hanson, state health officer, and Mrs. Meade Love State President of the Federation of Women's Clubs.

DOG CATCHERS AND NEGRO NURSES

In the same paragraph the daily newspaper reported the firing by the Holcombe administration of dog catchers and Negro nurses in Houston. In the wake of this, announcement has been made of the abolishment of Bethlehem Settlement House. In other words, the welfare work of the city of Houston among Negroes is being eliminated, thereby making it in the minds of those who thus leave us without even one nurse of no more concern than dog catchers.

5-27-33

The white nurses were cut half in two: there were six and three were cut off and three left. The Negro nurses were all let out. The Informer agrees with Chairman Wiess of the Harris County Relief Committee that it is "darned unfortunate." But that is the way it will always be for folks who don't have the ballot and who don't have enough interest in their children's welfare to make sacrifices to help get the ballot.

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Public Health Work

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
MORNING PUBLIC LEDGER

JUN 25 1933

NEGRO NURSES AID IN WAR ON DISEASE

Physician Praises Work of 3000 Trained Women in Checking Tuberculosis

ALUMNAE RAISE STANDARD

By JOSEPH V. BAKER

With commencement in various hospital training schools drawing to a close, Negro physicians are praising the part being played by the Negro nurse in maintaining a high standard of health among the group during the depression.

The first of this praise came from Detroit, where a national conference of social workers approved the work being done by the many visiting and clinic nurses in congested centers throughout the country. Speakers especially commended the work done by visiting units in fighting the spread of tuberculosis.

In tracing the rise of this group of women workers among Negroes, it was pointed out at graduation exercises held at Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, which is a part of Howard University, at Provident, Chicago; Harlem, New York, and Mercy Hospital, in Philadelphia, that despite the fact that nursing recently began to attract the young Negro college and high school graduate, a great progress has been recorded in the last ten years.

The first Negro woman to prepare for the profession of nursing was Miss Mary Mahoney, who graduated from New England Hospital for Women and Children in 1879. Through her efforts and the co-operation of graduates of the New England school, the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses was organized at a meeting in Boston in 1909.

3000 Negro Nurses Now

From this little group, totaling at that time less than 100, the number of Negro graduate nurses has increased to upward of 3000. A survey of graduation records shows that these have come, in the main, from eleven major training schools: Lincoln, at Raleigh; Freedmen's, Dixie-Hampton, Hampton Institute, Provident, Hubbard, Nashville; the Charleston (S. C.) Hospital and Training School, St. Agnes', Raleigh; Flint-Goodridge, New Orleans; Tuskegee Institute, Harlem, and Mercy Hospital, Philadelphia.

With a new $2,000,000 hospital and training school, Provident, in Chicago, stands out as the greatest training school for Negroes in the Middle West, and perhaps the most modernly equipped in the United States, while Freedmen's, Harlem and Mercy hold first places in the South and East.

In referring to the position held and work done by the Negro nurse, Dr. H. R. M. Landis, director of the clinical and sociological department of Phipps Institute, said:

"My work in connection with Phipps Institute and Philadelphia Health Council in the prevention of tuberculosis has proved to me the necessity of employing Negro nurses. At first I regarded Negro nurses as an experiment, but that was years ago; now their usefulness is proved. They do among their own people what no white women can accomplish—they get the confidence of their patients and keep them coming to the dispensaries. Only through their follow-up work in the homes can we be sure that our directions are obeyed."

Training Is Standardized

How this work has its beginning in highly standardized training which these nurses receive in Negro training schools is made clear in a statement issued by Miss Lula G. Warlick, superintendent of nurses at the Mercy Training School, the only accredited school for nurses ever established in Philadelphia. She says:

"The Negro nurse of today is alert to her opportunities and is striving to aid in the rise of the profession; hence, as she enters the training school, her first inquiries are concerning the character of the school, what it offers its students, its rating with official State boards and some information concerning its graduates."

Miss Warlick also emphasizes that: "The leading training schools have raised the standard of entrance," and as a result one finds graduate nurses in the winter sessions as well as the summer schools at the great universities, getting added experience and knowledge to be of greater value in their respective positions."

The nurses' home at Mercy Hospital, 50th street and Woodland avenue, was completed in 1930 at a cost of more than $200,000, part of which was donated by the Rosenwald Fund.